

*duis, remotis; cymis brevè pedunculatis, paucifloris; floribus parvis, coriaceis; corollæ laciniis intùs propè apicem barbatis, disco leprosis.*  
*Campelepis viminea.*

*Hab.* passim in Bactriâ Inferiore, propè Peshawur, Attock, &c.

April 5.—R. Brown, Esq., V.P., in the Chair.

Read the commencement of “A Catalogue of Spiders, either not previously recorded or little known as indigenous to Great Britain, with remarks on their Habits and Economy.” By John Blackwall, Esq., F.L.S., &c.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### FILAGO GALLICA, LINN.

The Rev. W. L. P. Garnons, F.L.S., has had the good fortune to rediscover this plant in Essex. In the autumn of 1841 he gathered a single individual, and on the 12th of last October met with a considerable number of specimens in fields at Bere Church near Colchester.—C. C. B.

### NEW BRITISH CARICES.

Through the kindness of their respective discoverers, I have been favoured with specimens of two species of *Carex*, which have not as yet found a place in the catalogue of British plants. 1. *C. paradoxa* (Willd.), found in Ireland—the exact place not stated—by D. Moore, Esq.: it is closely allied to *C. paniculata*, from which I believe it is to be distinguished by its much more strongly ribbed fruit, and by the convex faces of its triquetrous stems. It also is very similar to *C. teretiusecula*, from which it is separated by its strongly ribbed fruit, and the bulbous base of its style. 2. *C. Boeninghausiana* (Weihe), discovered near Hertford by the Rev. W. H. Coleman: closely allied to *C. remota* and *C. axillaris*, but easily distinguished from them by having the edges of its fruit fringed with minute teeth from the end of the beak quite to the base of the fruit itself.

I may take this opportunity of stating that *C. irrigua* (“Sm.” Hoppe), which was first detected by Mr. John Thompson at Muckle Moss, Ridley, Northumberland, has also been found at Terregles near Dumfries, by Mr. P. Gray. It is probably a common plant on quaking bogs, having been overlooked as *C. limosa*, to which it is very similar in appearance, differing by its broader leaves, scarcely striated fruit, and glumes without a central longitudinal green band.—C. C. B.

### PUS-LIKE GLOBULES OF THE BLOOD.

Although the pus-like globules found in the blood of patients affected with various severe inflammatory and suppurative diseases are very like the pale globules now so well known as belonging to healthy blood, it often happens that the former globules differ manifestly from the latter.

In inflammatory affections the pus-like globules of the blood are generally rather larger, more irregular in size and form, and some-

times more opaque, than the pale globules of healthy blood; and the globules occurring in disease are frequently clustered together very remarkably; they are sometimes of a reddish colour, including from one to four blood-discs, rarely five or six, in a very delicate and pale envelope. Besides, in the pus-like globules of the blood of patients labouring under inflammatory disease, the molecules composing the nucleus are mostly surrounded, and often more or less separated, by a quantity of minutely granular matter, which is either generally less obvious, or even absent, in the pale globules of healthy blood, as is shown by the illustrative figures.

In a case of great swelling with purulent deposits in the leg of a mare, the pus-like globules of the blood presented an average diameter of  $\frac{1}{2666}$ th of an inch, and were nearly as numerous as the red discs; while in the blood of a healthy mare, examined at the same time for comparison, the pus-like globules were by no means so plentiful, and they almost all ranged between  $\frac{1}{3500}$ th and  $\frac{1}{2900}$ th of an inch.—From *Mr. Gulliver's Contributions to Minute Anatomy*, London and Edinb. Philos. Magazine for September 1842.

ORIGIN OF FIBRE.—STRUCTURE OF FIBRINE AND OF FALSE MEMBRANES.

Since the researches of Schwann, the origin of fibre, and of all the tissues, has been ascribed to the growth of cells; but it becomes questionable whether cells are essential to the formation of all textures, since fibrils, which may be the primordial fibres of certain parts, are formed in a few minutes in fibrine by the mere act of coagulation.

“Mr. Gerber (*Gen. Anatomy*, fig. 16–18.) has delineated what he terms the first, second, and complete stages of *fibrillation* in the fibrine composing coagulable lymph; but he does not say how much his drawings are magnified, though in some of them a very low power must have been employed. Others are sufficiently enlarged to show the cells from which he says the fibres are formed; and this is precisely the point in which my observations are at issue with the views now generally entertained concerning the origin of fibre.

“‘All the organic tissues,’ says Dr. Schwann, ‘however different they may be, have one common principle of development as their basis, viz. the formation of cells; that is to say, nature never unites molecules immediately into a fibre, a tube, and so forth, but she always in the first instance forms a round cell, or changes, when it is requisite, the cells into the various primary tissues as they present themselves in the adult state.’

“How,” adds Mr. Gulliver, “is the origin of the fibrils which I have depicted in so many varieties of fibrine to be reconciled with this doctrine? And what is the proof that these fibrils may not be the primordial fibres of animal textures? I could never see any satisfactory evidence that the fibrils of fibrine are changed cells; and indeed in many cases the fibrils are formed so quickly after coagulation, that their production, according to the views of the eminent physiologist just quoted, would hardly seem possible. Nor have I

been able to see that these fibrils arise from the interior of the blood-discs, like certain fibres delineated in the last ingenious researches of Dr. M. Barry."

It has been very commonly supposed that fibrine only exhibits an organized appearance when it has coagulated in contact with living parts. In his Notes and Appendix to Gerber's 'Anatomy,' Mr. Gulliver has shown a distinct structure in fibrine which has clotted, within or out of the body, simply from rest, as well as in a false membrane. He now gives several figures to illustrate the analogy of structure in fibrine coagulated merely from rest, and fibrinous exudations resulting from inflammation. This structure is made up of fibrils of extreme delicacy and tenuity, and of corpuscles possessing the characters of primary cells, or organic germs.

It may be added that these observations are not devoid of interest in relation to reparative process. If a clot of fibrine consists of primary cells and fibrils, even when coagulation has taken place simply from rest, it may be easily understood that inflammation is unnecessary to the healing of wounds; and this is precisely the view which Dr. Macartney has long since supported against the current doctrines of the day.—Abridged from *Contributions to Minute Anatomy*, by G. Gulliver, F.R.S. Lond. Edinb. and Dublin Philos. Magazine, October 1842.

*An Extract of a Letter addressed to a friend containing an account of Tortricides captured in the New Forest in the month of September 1841. By Capucina\*.*

I took about eighty different species and upwards of 700 specimens; amongst them were *Stilbia anomolata* and *Cleora teneraria*; but passing over the *Noctuae*, *Geometrae*, &c., I shall confine myself to two or three genera of the smaller kinds.

I secured all the known species of the genus *Sarrothropus*, including the more rare ones, *undulanus*, *ramosanus*, and the beautiful and almost unknown *Stoninus*; the more common species were abundant, especially *degenerarius* and *dilutanus*.

The capture which I next describe is the 'Tufted *Peronea*,' and of which I am inclined to be somewhat proud. I took 153 specimens of them, amongst which are three new species. I found them somewhat in the following proportions: *P. semiustana*, plentiful; *striana*, the same; *substriana*, not quite so plentiful; *bruneana*, rather scarce; *vittana*, plentiful; *spadiceana*, the same; *consimilana*, plentiful; *defontiana*, the same; *fulvocristana*, sparingly; *albovittana*, scarce; *cristalana*, numerous; *fulvovittana*, the same; *albipunctana*, took but one specimen; *cristana*, very plentiful; *Bentleyana*, took but three specimens; *sequana*, the same; *subcristalana*, only one specimen; *chantana*, one; *ruficostana*, sparing; *obsoletana*, took but one specimen; *favillaceana*, very numerous; *tristana*, the same; and *reticulana*, likewise very numerous; all in very good order. I will now describe those which I consider to be new Buttons, and will do so to the best of my power; but being but indifferently acquainted

\* Communicated by J. Curtis, Esq., F.L.S.

with the terms proper to be used for the purpose, I must bespeak your indulgence if I fail to make myself intelligible. The first I have named *Capucina*; the ground of the superior or upper wings dark brown, with a shade of burnt umber, and an elevated white tuft or button in the centre of each wing; the palpi and head white; and the corslet and anterior part of the wings as far as the tuft nearly covered with an incrustation of pure white, with two blotches of the same, and several raised snow-white dots towards the extremity of the wings; the under wings shining pale brown, not unlike those of some of its congeners. Now as it is usual, I believe, for entomologists to designate new insects by the names of the persons who discover them, you will not be surprised if I have been desirous of following their example. Indeed I consider myself fortunate in possessing a name so appropriate for this beautiful little insect,—*P. Capucina*, nor does it sound so badly. The second is also a *White Button*; the anterior part of the upper wings a bright chestnut, besprinkled with a profusion of powdery white dust-like particles, the blending of the two colours producing a beautiful roan; the under wings are not dissimilar to those of *Capucina*. I propose to call this insect *Gumpinana*; and although I am not connected with the family of Gumps, the name is not without its charms, and therefore I hope it will not be unacceptable to the public. The third is so nearly allied to *ruficostana*, which is so well described by Mr. Curtis\*, that it is unnecessary to particularize respecting it; the shape of the wings and the colours throughout are precisely the same, with the addition of a well-formed red tuft or button on each of the upper wings: I have therefore ventured to name it *ruficristana*. I fear I am tiring you with this tedious account, and therefore will trouble you with only one genus more, and that is *Leptogramma*. I did not meet with one specimen of *scrabrana*; *literana* I found in great abundance; *squamana* equally so, if not more numerous; *irrorana* tolerably plentiful; *tricolorana* plentiful; and *fulvomixtana* very plentiful. I captured a host of other Lepidoptera, several of which are supposed to be rare, if not new insects.

Some of the old collectors here are pleased to say that I made a "good hit" during my excursion; but I must confess that my success was mainly attributable to the clear directions I received from Mr. Bentley, to whom I am under great obligation for this and many other civilities, and it proves that his favourite locality, from which he so largely enriched his valuable cabinet, continues to deserve the best attention of the practical lepidopterist.

I remain, yours &c.,

G. CAPUCINA.

#### NATIONAL ENCOURAGEMENT OF SCIENCE.

We have great satisfaction in recording the grant of an annual pension of £300 to Prof. Owen, of the high value of whose talents, laboriously and disinterestedly applied in the service of natural sci-

\* Vide 'British Entomology,' 2nd edition, where all the species are described.

ence, it would be quite superfluous in us to speak. And it is with similar pleasure that we mention an annual pension to the eminent naturalist, John Curtis, Esq., F.L.S., of whose great work on British Entomology we have already expressed our opinion. His attention has latterly been directed to practical inquiries into the habits of insects as connected with agriculture and horticulture, the interesting results of which have been published in the 'Transactions of the Agricultural Society,' and under the signature of Ruricola in the 'Gardeners' Chronicle.'

*Books received for Review.*

An Introduction to Entomology, by W. Kirby and W. Spence. 6th edit.

Popular Conchology, by Agnes Catlow.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR OCTOBER 1842.

*Chiswick.*—October 1. Clear and fine. 2. Foggy: fine. 3. Foggy: overcast. 4. Very fine. 5. Cloudless and very fine. 6—8. Cloudy and fine. 9. Light haze: cloudy. 10. Overcast. 11. Foggy: clear and very fine. 12. Cloudy. 13. Overcast. 14. Hazy. 15. Overcast. 16. Light haze: very fine. 17. Hazy: overcast and fine. 18. Very fine: heavy rain at night. 19. Fine. 20. Clear and frosty: fine: frosty at night. 21. Sharp frost: fine: frosty. 22. Densely overcast: heavy rain. 23. Rain: heavy showers. 24. Boisterous: clear and fine at night. 25. Rain: stormy at night. 26. Very clear. 27, 28. Cloudy and fine. 29. Frosty: cloudy and fine: clear and frosty at night. 30. Frosty: clear and fine. 31. Overcast: clear at night.—Mean temperature of the month 5°·94 below the average.

*Boston.*—Oct. 1. Cloudy: rain early A.M. 2. Cloudy. 3. Cloudy: rain A.M. 4. Cloudy. 5—8. Fine. 9, 10. Cloudy. 11. Fine. 12, 13. Cloudy. 14. Fine. 15—17. Cloudy. 18. Cloudy: rain P.M. 19. Stormy. 20, 21. Fine. 22. Stormy: rain A.M. 23. Cloudy. 24. Windy: rain A.M. 25. Cloudy: rain P.M. 26—31. Fine.

*Sandwick Manse, Orkney.*—Oct. 1. Showers: cloudy. 2. Showers. 3. Cloudy. 4. Showers. 5. Clear: cloudy. 6. Showers: rain. 7. Damp: cloudy. 8—13. Cloudy. 14, 15. Drizzle: cloudy. 16. Cloudy. 17. Cloudy: showers. 18. Rain: sleet. 19. Hail-showers: sleet. 20. Snow: hail. 21. Sleet-showers: cloudy. 22. Rain. 23. Showers. 24. Snow: aurora. 25. Rain: aurora. 26. Rain: showers. 27—29. Showers. 30, 31. Damp.

*Applegarth Manse, Dumfries-shire.*—Oct. 1—3. Fair and fine. 4. Frost: fair and clear. 5—8. Fair and fine. 9, 10. Fair and fine, but cloudy. 11. Fair and fine: clear. 12. Fair and fine. 13. Fair and fine: frost A.M. 14. Fair and fine, but cloudy. 15. Fair and fine. 16. Fair and fine: cloudy. 17. Cloudy, but fair. 18. Shower. 19. Shower of snow. 20, 21. Fair and clear. 22, 23. Heavy showers all day. 24. Fair and clear. 25. Heavy fall of snow. 26. Snow A.M.: melting P.M. 27. Fair and clear. 28. Fair and clear: snow gone. 29, 30. Fair and clear: frost. 31. Fair and clear: no frost.

Sun shone out 28 days. Rain fell 4 days. Frost 4 days. Snow 3 days.

Wind North 3 days. North-east 1 day. East-south-east 1 day. South-east 2 days. South-south-east 1 day. South 1 day. South-west 4 days. West-south-west 4 days. West 3 days. West-north-west 6 days. North-west 3 days. North-north-west 2 days.

Calm 12 days. Moderate 5 days. Brisk 9 days. Strong breeze 4 days. Boisterous 1 day.

Mean temperature of the month .....	44°·45
Mean temperature of October 1841 .....	45·75
Mean temperature of spring-water .....	49·60

